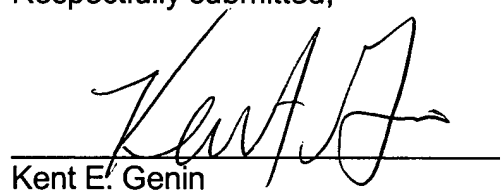
REMARKS

Claims 12, 13 and 42 have been amended to clarify the wide area communications network claimed. Claim 12 has been amended to remove limitations requiring ATM format and to add the feature of a subscriber unit at the first subscriber location that is configured to automatically select on of a plurality of available derived digital voice channels. Support for this amendment may be found in original claim 16 and in the specification at, for example, page 20, lines 3-2 and page 21, lines 14-24.

Claim 42 has been amended to clarify that the first and second subscriber locations are in communication via at least one derived digital telephone voice channel carried over the Internet.

Applicant respectfully requests consideration and allowance of claims 12-42.

Respectfully submitted,



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